

I am appalled by Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation, and a total breach of the trust that citizens have given this company to use the public airwaves.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter. Localism and democracy are weakened by Sinclair's type of centralized reporting.

The decision to air the partisan documentary, "Stolen Honor: Wounds that Never Heal", offends any standard of fairness and robs Sinclair of any credibility as a reliable source of news. This would be a great disservice to the public interest.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.